

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 6120

FOR US DEL SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT SENGHOR AND SENEGALESE PRESS COMMENTS ON
SECRETARY'S SOUTH AFRICAN TRIP.

REF: DAKAR 6119

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SENGHOR TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR PERSONALLY
EARLY SEPT 22 TO ASSURE US THAT SOLEIL ARTICLE CRITICIZING
SECRETARY'S SOUTH AFRICAN TRIP IS CONTRARY TO GOS ATTITUDE.
END SUMMARY

1. SENEGALESE DAILY LE SOLEIL SEPT 22 RAN FRONT PAGE ARTICLE
(BEING SUMMARIZED BY REFTEL USINFO) ENTITLED "KISSINGER
LEAVES AGAIN EMPTY HANDED (VALISES VIDES)." ARTICLE
SARCASTICALLY QUESTIONS MOTIVATION AND "LATE" TIMING OF
SECRETARY'S PRESENT AFRICAN INITIATIVE AND BELITTLES
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN TRIP REGARDING RHODESIA.

2. PRESIDENT SENGHOR TELEPHONED ME AT 100 AM SEPT 22 TO SAY
THAT HE AND PRIME MINISTER DIOUF WERE FURIOUS ABOUT THIS
ARTICLE. SENGHOR SAID MOKTAR KEBE, JOURNALIST WHO WROTE
PIECE, HAD BEEN CONVOKED TO PALACE AT NOON TODAY AND WOULD
BE UPBRAIDED BECAUSE THAT ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN SEMI-
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER WAS FAR FROM REPRESENTING SENTIMENTS
OF SENEGALESE GOVERNMENT.

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3. SENGHOR SAID ONLY YESTERDAY HE TOLD HIS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DURING ITS WEEKLY MEETING THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD DONE PRECISELY WHAT HE TOLD AFRICAN LEADERS HE INTENDED TO DO IN AFRICA AND THAT GOS REACTION TO THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVES WAS POSITIVE, AS HE HAD DIRECTLY INFORMED THE SECRETARY.

4. SENGHOR SAID PROBLEM OF SENEGALESE JOURNALISTS LIKE KEBE WAS THAT THEY WERE TOO EUROPEANIZED AND DID NOT ANALYSE AFRICAN EVENTS IN AFRICAN TERMS. "WHY SHOULD SENEGAL'S REACTION TO THE SECRETARY'S SOUTHERN AFRICAN INITIATIVE BE MORE "ROYALIST" THAN THAT OF NYERERE AND OTHER FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS?", SENGHOR ADDED.

5. I THANKED PRESIDENT SENGHOR FOR PERSONALLY TELEPHONING ME ON THIS MATTER AND PROMISED TO REPORT HIS DEMARCHE TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. HE SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO OUR MEETING SEPT 21 AT 1500.

6. AS SEPTEL WILL INDICATE, SENEGALESE RADIO AND TELEVISION COVERAGE GENERALLY ARE GIVING FAVORABLE TREATMENT TO RESULTS OF SECRETARY'S SOUTHERN AFRICAN INITIATIVES.
AGGREY

NOTE BY OC/T: DAKAR 6120 NOT PASSED USDEL SECRETARY.

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